

DECLASSIFIED  
NWD735017  
15 NARA DATE: 12/8

FROM

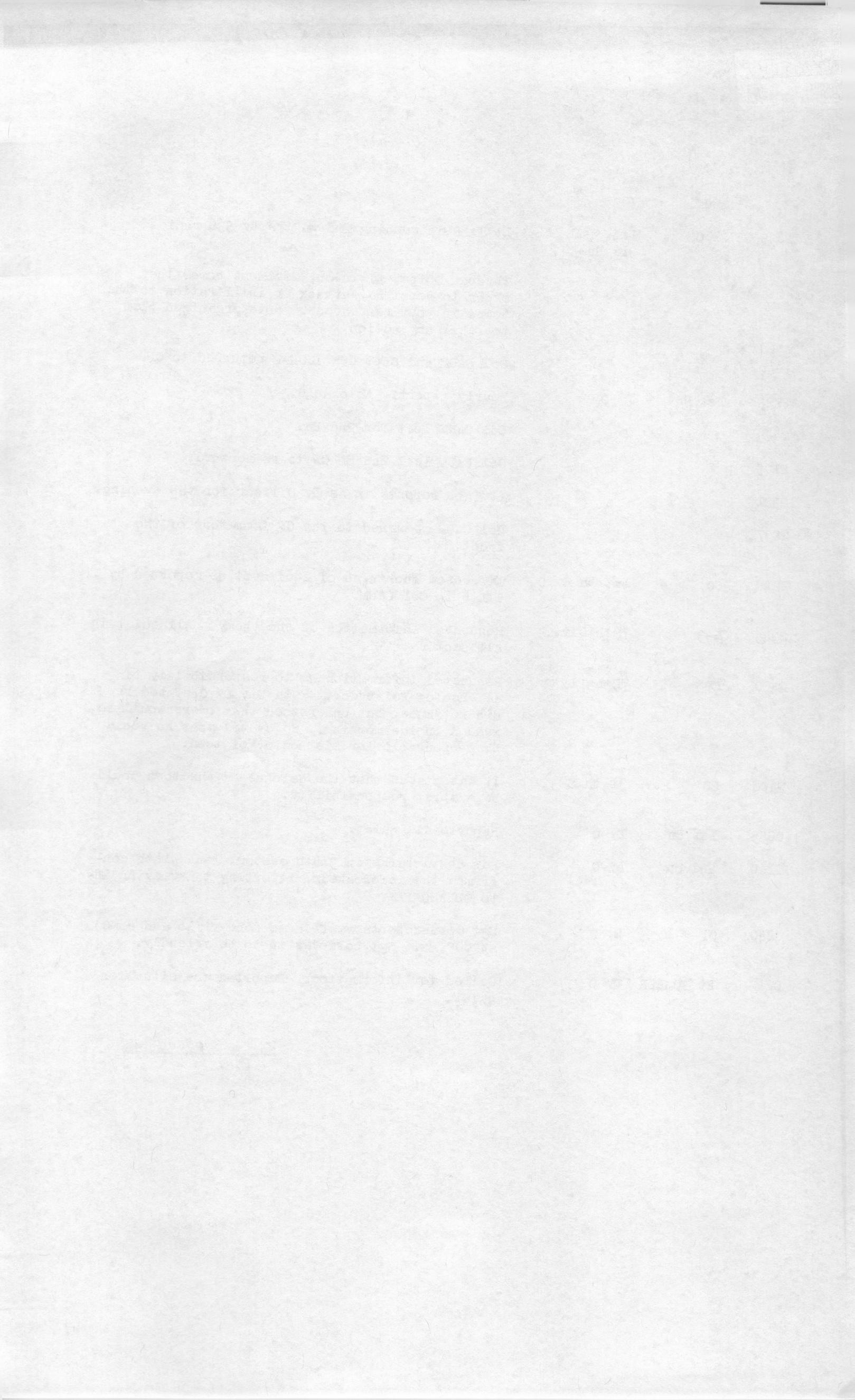
S E C R E T

S - 3 JOURNAL

CP: WEITBRUCH  
242d InfantryFROM: 23 1200 Jan 45  
TO : 24 1200 Jan 45

TIME	FROM	TO	MESSAGE AND INCIDENTS
1230	Radio message sent to all Bn Cmdrs. and Sp Unit Cmdrs.		"In view of possible temporary shortage of cartridge cal. .30.8 per clip, units will salvage m-1 rifle clips for reloading. Get this information down to the individual soldier." Signed CO, 242d Infantry.
1310			Four jet-propels harassing over MARIENTHAL.
1410			Col CAUM left 3rd Bn for 2nd Bn.
1430			S-2 left for 314th Inf and CP.
1515			Col CAUM returned to CP.
1520			Col CAUM and S-3 left for rcn to MIRVERSHEIM.
1600	Col COLEMAN Col SHERRARD	2nd Bn	I'm at the 242d Inf. CP. There is a change in limiting points which will change our Regimental locations. Rcns made by CO and S-3 will tie in with new limiting points.
1610	Ex O	2nd Bn	No word from KALTENHOUSE, everything quiet. Artillery going out from units around CP.
			LPs will be pushed down to the river tonight. No infiltration will be permitted to enter KALTENHOUSE. KALTENHOUSE must be kept clear.
1612			Col COLEMAN left CP.
1625	Capt HOLBROOK Ex O		Make rcn of towns in 242d Infantry areas for their protection tonight against infiltration. Plans to follow.
1630	Ex O	Capt MATTHEWS	Contact Capt STROM make rcn of town. Contact 314th, organize and coordinate a joint protection of this town.

23 - 24 Jan 45  
Page 11



DECLASSIFIED  
JND735017  
THORITY  
NARA DATE: 12/8

FROM TO

1635 Ex O 1st, 2nd Lt TABB is sending 2nd Bn twenty 536 radios.  
3rd Bns

Through Corps, Division, Regiment comes the order to repel any attack or infiltration to the towns in your rear areas. Have organized plan to repel any action.

1640 Col CAUM and Capt CUNNINGHAM returned to CP.

1725 1st Bn Dy O Hourly report. No change.

2045 Col CAUM left for 2nd Bn.

2105 Col CAUM left 2nd Bn CP to go forward.

2321 Lt Tabb reports in as Dy Officer for the evening.

2237 Col CAUM returned to the CP from tour of the front.

2240 CO 1st Bn Ex O Discussed shortages of equipment as reported by TEL 6 to Col CAUM.

2345 S-3 79th Div. Requested information of the enemy. All quiet in all sectors.

2400 CO 79th Div Requested information as to responsibility of defense of Weitbruch. 79th Div Dy O stated he did not know, but understood that orders would be issued in the morning. CO stated that he would be responsible for his sector of town.

2408 CO 314th S-3 It was stated that the defense of the town would be a split responsibility.

0055 1st Bn Dy O Reports all quiet.

0110 2nd Bn Dy O Has heard tanks in 314th sector. the 314th confirmed the information, reporting tanks moving into OBERHOFFEN.

0240 OP # 1 Dy O Sgt Giles reports small arms (one rifle and a MG) at 80° Az. Sgt believes it to be friendly.

0245 Lt FOWLER Dy O Called for information. Reported the situation quiet.

23 - 24 Jan 45  
Page 2

CLASSIFIED  
735017

ARA DATE: 12/18

	FROM	TO	
0340	79th Div	Dy O	Informed By o that PWS stated that an enemy attack was expected on our left about 0400. Reported to 79th Div all quiet so far.
0345	Dy O	3rd Bn	Informed 3rd Bn of activity as reported by 79th G-2. 3rd Bn reports some activity from his patrol, in a fire fight. Has requested mortar fire. Strength of enemy undertermined in vicinity of objective of patrol.
0400	1st Bn	Dy O	Reports two parachute flares, one vicinity West of his CP. All quiet.
0410	2nd Bn	Dy O	Reported seeing a few flares to their North and left.
0415	Dy O	3rd Bn	Called for information on his patrol. Reported three dead enemy, enemy withdrew.
0435	79th G-2	Dy O	Reported that 313th C Co heard enemy digging in at 0525-2410. Time 0428.
0445	3rd Bn	Dy O	Reports that patrol had one man killed either by a mine or a trip grenade. Account for four enemy killed and possibly more further back. Enemy withdrew, strength undetermined. Notified 3rd Bn of 79th report.
0505	Dy O	2nd Bn	Notified 2nd Bn of 79th report and also 3rd Bns patrol action. 2nd Bn reports mortar OP observed something and fired a couple of rounds. No report of results.
0525	3rd Bn	Dy O	Reports no positive identification of dead enemy. All insignia had been stripped from clothing. Enemy had one carbine, Serial: 2952357. Enemy had at least twelve men there and possibly more.
0527	2nd Bn	Dy O	Reports no action in front of mortar OP after firing nine rounds. Reports searchlight beams from his OP #2 on an Az of 250°.
0600	1st Bn	Dy O	Another flare observed. No change in situation.
0709	1st Bn	Dy O	All quiet.

23 - 24 Jan 45  
Page 3



DECLASSIFIED  
NWD735017  
AUTHORITY  
15 NARA DATE: 12/8

S E C R E T

FROM: 24 1200 Jan S - 3 JOURNAL 242d Infantry  
TO : 25 1200 Jan CP: WEITBRUCH

TIME	FROM	TO	MESSAGE AND INCIDENTS
1215			Gen <sup>WYCHE</sup> WISH visited CP. Discussed situation with Col CAUM.
1300			Gen LINDEN visited CP. Discussed situation with Col CAUM.
1310			Hostile aircraft in vicinity. No bombs dropped.
1400	S-3	Bible White	S-3 requested to deliver rubber boat to 2nd Bn.
1920			Three incoming Artillery fires just reported by Guard of CP.
1925			KALTENHOUSE receiving heavy mortar and artillery fire. We have good observation in KALTENHOUSE.
2030			Col CAUM and S-3 left for Bra, 1st and 2nd Bns, with overlay of sectors of Fire.
2315	S-3	2nd Bn	2nd Bn OP reports vehicular traffic at 30 Az. Also reported all information of our situation.
0030			Col CAUM and S-3 returned to CP.
0050	Maj REYNOLDS Dy O		Reports heavy amount small arms fire on their left.
0125	<sup>3/15/44</sup> <del>Bismarck</del>	S33	They have the same situation on their front. Are holding all small arms fire, just using mortar and artillery fire.
0200	79th	S-3	Checking again on 222d front. Warned there might be a general attack in the offing. Both Regiments 25th Pz have been identified over there.
0230	3rd Bn	Dy O	Jerries in factory on other side of river.
0405	1st Bn	Dy O	Small arms fire in The East of KALTENHOUSE.

24 - 25 Jan 45  
Page 1



DECLASSIFIED  
ND 735 01715  
HORITY  
NARA DATE: 12/8

FROM      TO

0428 Col FRICKE      Asked how the ammunition situation was.  
                   Capt WATSON

0430 3rd Bn      Dy O      Reported breakthrough in K Co Area.

0435 2nd Bn      Dy O      Called concerning breakthrough on his left flank.

0445 3rd Bn      Dy O      Reported center penetration in area of I and K Cos.

0510 3rd Bn      Dy O      Reported TDs in K Co area pulled out.

0540 S-3      TD Cmdr      Contacted TD Cmdr and asked why the TDs were pulling out.

0544 S-3           Alerted Tank Platoon through 315th S-3.

0545 3rd Bn      S-3      Reported tanks trying to cross river by factory.

0550 3rd Bn      S-3      Asked for more Artillery.

0600 3rd Bn      S-3      Reported two tanks by factory. Giving them TOT.

0625 S-3      Tank Platoon Ldr      Asked for the situation.

0625           Two Tank Destroyers were stuck and had to be burned.

0627           TDs blew bridge.

0635           Col CAUM left for 3rd Bn.

0640 Gen WYSH      Ex O      Ex O gave situation as of this time. Gen requested unit designation of enemy as soon as possible.

0640 Ex O      S-2      Get unit designation of enemy as soon as possible and inform 79th Div.

0645 S-3      3rd Bn      Four tanks and Tank Officer will report to you.

0705           Tank Officer arrived at this CP.

24 - 25 Jan  
Page 2



DECLASSIFIED  
WD735017  
AUTHORITY  
35 NARA DATE: 12/8

FROM TO

- 0605 Tank Officer left for 3rd Bn CP. Guide sent to get tanks from MARIENTHAL.
- 0715 Capt DeREUS S-3 3rd Bn MGs in position. Artillery observers along the river.
- 0725 Ex O 79th G-3 Requested M-12 to blast factory.
- 0740 MLR being restored. M Co MGs in position. Tanks around factory still. situation quieting down.
- 0745 3rd Bn S-3 Requested Artillery all along opposite bank.
- 1750 Ex O Suggested rations and water be sent to troops immediately before fog lifts.
- 0800 CO Ex O Ammunition needed by 3rd Bn.
- 0800 3rd Bn S-3 Reports Germans surrendering in K Co area. Eight PWs dressed in white will be sent to IPW.
- 0800 MLR established.
- 0805 Visibility poor.
- 0830 Twenty PWs captured by 3rd Bn.
- 0840 CO S-3 CO requested information in regard to 2nd Bn. CO wants CO 2nd Bn to get information about E Co immediately.  
Situation of breakthrough: Break-through came through K Co area. Artillery held them off while Reserve Co (L Co) moved around to mop up.
- 0845 S-3 order five miles of #130 wire for 3rd Bn.
- 0855 CO S-3 Platoon of tanks is with 3rd Bn. Platoon in MARIENTHAL earmarked for 79th Div.
- 0855 Capt DeREUS S-3 3rd Bn needs 7500 .50 cal.  
60 HE Baz  
300 60mm HE  
500 81mm HE  
50 81mm Smoke
- 0920 Group of enemy has just surrendered in front of E Co.
- 0930 S-3 1st Bn Have Capt ROCHELLE bring two 1st Bn platoons to fill gap in E Co.



DECLASSIFIED  
NND735017  
AUTHORITY  
3/5 NARA DATE: 12/8

FROM TO

0930 S-3 CO Gap between E Co being filled by 1st Bn platoons.  
Snipers in KALTENHOUSE. Col SHRIVERS is at this CP.

0935 2nd Bn 2nd Bn sending thirty-five prisoners back.

0940 CO S-3 Four enemy tanks are nearing four-way crossing toward KALTENHOUSE. Artillery instructed to FireMission.

0940 S-3 CO 2nd Bn Tanks are moving by bounds toward crossing North of KALTENHOUSE. 1st Bn platoons moving into positions.

1148 S-3 Col CAUM PWs state their mission was to take high ground where our MLR was. After this, another unit was to leap-frog their position.

1205 Col CAUM returned to CP.

24 - 25 Jan 45  
Page 4

DECLASSIFIED  
WD 735 017  
15 AUTHORITY  
NARA DATE: 12/8

S E C R E T

FROM: 25 1200 Jan  
TO : 26 1200 Jan

S - 3 JOURNAL

242d Infantry  
CP: WEITBRUCH

TIME	FROM	TO	MESSAGE AND INCIDENTS
1400	S-3	1st Bn	One platoon of 1st Bn to go with the gap and be attached to 2nd Bn.
1400	S-3	3rd Bn	L Co to come out of line and go back into reserve.
1415	Col SHRIVER		Visited CP to discuss situation with Col CAUM.
1430			Col CAUM made arrangements for reduction of pocket at 063229.
1445	Capt JE WATSON	S-3	2nd Bn has two additional prisoners that they captured in woods. Want PWs interrogated immediately to ascertain if more enemy in same section.
1450	Maj HOOVER	S-3	Called to find out which company we are going to use in attack this afternoon. "e are going to use L Co this after noon in the attack with the help of two tanks.
1450	CO Maj JOHNSON		CO was informed L Co would make c/a. Time of attack 1535.
1455	1st Bn 315th CO		CO informed 1st Bn CO that L Co was to make c/a at 1535. L Co is in reserve between I & K Companies.
1500	Maj HOOVER		Called at CP to discuss c/a with Col CAUM.
1505			Gen LINDEN called at CP.
1505	Col CAUM	Col LOVSNES	Col CAUM advised that <sup>one</sup> A Co of 315th will be in rear to be in support and cover L Co position during c/a.
1535	Story of Attack		Artillery fire being placed East of HAGUENAU to prepare for attack of Infantry at 1600. Smoke will be used and lifted before Infantry moves in to clean out pocket east of HAGUENAU.
1600	3rd Bn	S-3	Attack jumped off at 1600. Enemy Artillery is replying to our fire. Co L Making the attack. Situation on our left not so good Germans made penetrations. Mortars reputed to be back near Motor Park. Neutralization fire being placed across Moder River.

25 26 Jan  
Page 1

DECLASSIFIED  
NWD 735 017  
AUTHORITY  
15 NARA DATE: 12/8

FROM TO

- 1600 Report of Atk to hold down enemy. L Co has two tanks assisting attack.
- 1610 S-3 3rd Bn S-3 says steady stream of Artillery fire going over for you.
- 1615 3rd Bn S-3 We have the enemy out of the factory. They are running front of our tanks. MGs on tanks firing on them, literally chasing them. Hardly any fire on L Co. Seven prisoners taken from woods along trail that connects with main road.
- 1615 S-3 3rd Bn More Artillery fire being placed, to keep enemy from getting to their prepared positions.  
Our men are going around houses across river. 3rd Bn needs more men to take care of prisoners. Capt CUNNINGHAM promises that a truck will be on the immediately. 3rd Bn sees about sixty more dead enemy lying on ground. Estimate of forty more prisoners.
- 1620 S-3 3rd Bn Artillery to prepare fire for possible c/a. Mortars to prepare to place a screen around factory. L Co has taken over factory. L Co reorganizing on position.
- 1625 3rd Bn Reports they are badly in need of wire. S-3 informs that it will be given you, will send any help necessary to help lay wire.
- 1635 M Co S-3 Reports an estimate of 150 dead Germans in vicinity of factory.
- 1710 Right platoon in position. Left platoon, part of them are in position.
- 1730 3rd Bn S-3 Enemy tank harassing platoons.
- 1730 1st Bn platoon will replace L Co platoon at 1815.
- 1805 3rd Bn S-3 L Co withdrawing to line they held early this afternoon. Unable to dislodge enemy from second house. Whole Bn falling back to organize original line. Position was jeopardized by tank.

25 26 Jan  
Page 2

DECLASSIFIED  
NWD 735 017AUTHORITY  
15 NARA DATE: 12/8

FROM      TO

1815 S-3 1st Bn Check on platoon going to relieve L Co.

1815 CO S-3 Don't release Co of 315th until situation is clarified.

1825 S-3 Ex O 3rd Hold tanks. Tanks had already left. S-3 will have them sent back.

1836 S-3 Maj HOOVER S-3 asked to have tank CO call at this CP.

1837 S-3 S-4 Send all possible flares and 60mm mortar illuminating shells to 3rd Bn.

1837 Tank Co CO reported to CP.

1930 S-3 All Bns S-3 reported that Corps intercepted a German message stating enemy will attack tonight.

2045 Col RUSTEEBERG S-3 Relief of L Co platoon has been completed by our Co.

2042 Ex O 3rd Bn Total casualties: 15 killed  
15020 wounded  
Lt YELTON and Capt TROY killed in action.  
L Co could not stay across river to clean out ~~second~~ because tank was harassing us.  
Our tanks are coming up again. Glad to see them. They played hell with the enemy this afternoon.

2215 Lt TABB acting duty Officer until 2400.  
Received message from Capt BRZICA to the effect that the grenade launchers could not be obtained tonight or maybe not even tomorrow.

2220 Maj BULL Dy O Major stated that G-4 gave 79th Div ~~\_\_\_\_\_~~ figures of fifty 2½ ton trucks to move 242d for a short distance, but the Major thinks they will not be able to get that many for us.

2250 Dy O 2nd Bn Informed Ex O of grenade launcher situation.  
3rd Bn Informed Ex O of grenade launcher situation.  
He reports his S-4 is getting hold of S-4 2nd Bn on that now.

2310 2nd Bn Dy O All quiet.

25 26 Jan 45  
Page 3

DECLASSIFIED  
D735017  
NARA DATE: 12/8

FROM TO

0315 2nd Bn Dy O Reports some small arms fire and artillery fire on their positions. Small arms fire from vicinity of Camp D'OBERHOFFEN.

0340 3rd Bn Dy O Stated activity between house and factory. Requested artillery fire.

2342 S-3 242d FA Called for Artillery. Col CAUM notified. Tanks alerted in KALTENHOUSE to be ready to move in ten minutes.

0235 315th Dy O Called about searchlights. He says two lights will be on in our sector at 0345 until day-light.

0320 2nd Bn Dy O Reports that there seems to be about ten vehicles moving North out of Camp D'OBERHOFFEN towards HAGUENAU.

0323 Dy O 79th CP Gave them the above information.

0530 GEN WYSHE - COL CAUM <sup>WYCHE</sup> Gen WYSHE called to compliment the Regimental Commander for the excellent work in repulsing the Germans yesterday in the 242d sector.

0830 314th Dy O The 314th Inf has reached their objective( in support of 222d Inf).

1000 S-3 All Bns & Sp Units Alert quartering parties to be ready to move to new sector.

1045 S-3 Quartering Parties Report to G-1, 42d Div immediately.

1050 Lt CAMPBELL S-3 Reported motor movement late today or tomorrow to CHATEAU SALINE.  
Elements in WEITBRUCH will remain, while all other units move to assembly point NEIDERSCHAELFOLSHEIM- KOENIGSHEIM area.

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242d Infantry  
CP: WEITBRUCH

TIME	FROM	TO	MESSAGE AND INCIDENTS
1400			Col CAUM left for 3 <sup>rd</sup> , 1st and 2nd Bns.
1520			Col CAUM leaving 3rd Bn to return to CP.
1630	S-4	S-3	Corps G-4 will be given route and No of trucks required by Corps G-3. Corps G-4 will notify our G-4 howmany trucks we are getting and where and when. They are estimating we will get sixty (60) trucks. We are required to have six (6) Officer guides standing by in two $\frac{1}{2}$ tons on call to report to Corps G-4 to bring trucks to Regimental reserve assembly area. Pick up Foot Troops, transport to our own area; detruck, do not release transportation, but notify G-4 who will ge at IV Corps as to time and place trucks are. G-4 will give instruction as to disposition of trucks. Three of six guides will go back with trucks probably to SAVERNE, and report them to G-4, Maj CUNNINGHAM. Guides return to us. Notify TFL when Regiment is closed in our assembly area, time of clearing assembly area and time of detrucking new area.
1640			Gen <sup>WYCHE</sup> MSG called at CP for information on situation.
1650			Col CAUM returned to CP.
	Ln O	CO	Msg "Fuller to be relieved sometime tomorrow night. Troops to be billeted in NIEDERSCHAEFF-OLSHEIM (00-19) and WAHLENHEIM (96-18) for a few hours <u>after being relieved</u> . IP for movement from two towns mentioned above will be MOMMENHEIM (93-17). Div to prescribe routes of movement from two towns to the rear. 79th to prescribe routes of withdrawal from present positions to two towns. Time of withdrawal to depend on relief and to be furnished you later. Will remain here. Request $\frac{1}{2}$ ton be returned to me here to dispatch further information from G-3. (Cont)

26 - 27 Jan

Page 1

DECLASSIFIED  
IND 735017  
15 NARA DATE: 12/8

FROM TO  
Msg Continued

Relief from attachment of 242d to 79th  
to be effective upon arrival of 242d into  
two towns. 242d will then be under Task  
Force LINDEN."

MATTHEWS, Capt.  
L410.

Ln O Co

"It will be necessary to send another quartering party to prepare billets in two towns. Capt STROM has gone to CHATEAU-SALINE. Capacity of towns for billeting is unknown. Trucks for movement from present position to two towns will have to be requested from 79th. Trucks for movement from two towns to destination to be furnished by Div.

MATTHEWS, Capt.  
1713.

2315	3rd Bn	Dy O	German patrol reported in 2nd Bn area. 2nd Bn seems to know nothing about it.
2325	Dy O	2nd Bn	German patrol at 071220. There are five or six men in the patrol.
2340	2nd Bn	S-3	Formulated plans to capture the German patrol.
0037	2nd Bn	Dy O	Reports no information as to the patrol as yet.
0050	3rd Bn	Dy O	Reports three of our men were wounded and are in the basement of the mill. Requested searchlights to be turned off.
0100	315th Inf	Dy O	Informed Dy O that searchlights will be turned off immediately.
0225	2nd Bn CO	Dy O	Reports that patrol has returned and all is quiet.
0230	3rd Bn	Dy O	Reports all quiet that wounded men have not yet been brought in to Aid Station.
0437	315th Inf	Dy O	Requested information about patrol looking for patrol of enemy. Informed 315th that our patrol returned without mishap.

26 - 27 Jan 45  
Page 2

DECLASSIFIED

WD 735 017

AUTHORITY

15 NARA DATE: 12/8

FROM TO

0745 Col GLOR<sup>100</sup> Dy O Called to inform the Dy O that the relief would take place tomorrow night instead of tonight.

0746 3rd Bn Dy O Wishes to get any early information on the move.

0805 1st Bn Dy O No change.

0830 Msg from CO AT Co "We are motorized and able to move Co by motor."

0835 79th G-3 CO Relief of this Regiment by 314th will be delayed 24 hours. Confirmed by 42d Div G-3."

0900 Gen LINDEN visited CP for discussion with Col Caum about movement, ~~REINFORCEMENTS~~, etc.

1020 42d G-3 Ex O 3rd Bn find billets Southern part of HAGUENAU at approx 0800. Monday morning. 2nd and 1st Bns to NEIDERSCHAELLOFSHEIM. S-4 to arrange guides and trucks.

1140 Col CAUM and Capt CUNNINGHAM left for 2nd, 3rd and 1st Bns.

1200 Capt MATTHEWS Ln O reported to CP. Informed Ex O of Route IP-MOMMENHEIM. Route: HOCHFELD EN, Route N421 to SAVERNE - N4 to PHAEBSBOURG - N4 to SAARBOURG - N4 to HEMMING - N55 to BOURDNAY to MOREN vicinity CHATEAU-SALINE.

Southern boundary of our area. HARAU COURT West to MAZUE RULLES. NE to CHATEAU-SALINE. SE back to HARAU COURT.

Div CP Vic - sur- seille opened 28 Jan 45.

26 - 27 Jan 45  
Page 3